

PROCEEDINGS  
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A NEW SHREW FROM BALTISTAN.

BY GERRIT S. MILLER, JR.

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Four specimens of a pale gray shrew of the genus *Crocidura* collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott in Baltistan represent a species distinct from those previously described. The animal may be known as

***Crocidura pergrisea* sp. nov.**

*Type*.—Adult female (skin and skull), No. 175918, U. S. National Museum. Collected at Skoro Loomba, Shigar, Baltistan (altitude 9500 feet), October 16, 1912, by Dr. W. L. Abbott. Original number 8036.

*Diagnosis*.—Size and proportions about as in *Crocidura attenuata* as described and figured by Milne-Edwards,\* but color a very pale gray, skull smaller than in the Chinese animal (greatest length 18.8-19.6 instead of 21 mm.) and crown area of first unicuspid fully equal to that of second and third combined.

*Color*.—Hairs everywhere blackish-slate from base to within about 1.5 mm. of tips, this dark area followed by white with a faint creamy tinge, and this in turn on dorsal surface by the hair-brown tips. The general effect on underparts is a creamy white with irregular slaty clouding, that on upperparts pallid neutral-gray faintly washed with hair-brown. Feet and tail whitish, the tail with a dusky area on dorsal surface at tip but not including pencil.

*Skull and teeth*.—Viewed from above or below the skull resembles that of the common *Crocidura pullata* of Kashmir except that the braincase is narrower. In lateral aspect it is conspicuously lower throughout, and in two of the three skulls there is a slight but evident concavity in the interorbital region.

Teeth not obviously different from those of *C. pullata*, the small unicuspid subequal, with the first inclining to be slightly the larger, the crown area of the two small teeth together not greater than that of the large anterior unicuspid.

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\* Rech. Hist. Nat. Mamm., vol. 1, p. 263, pl. 38B, fig. 1; pl. 39A, fig. 2.

27—PROC. BIOL. SOC. WASH., VOL. XXVI, 1913.

*Measurements.*—Three adult females (those of the type standing first): head and body, 72, 75, 75; tail, 53, 54, 53; hind foot, 12.6, 12.6, 12.6; condylobasal length of skull, 19.0, 19.4, 19.2; zygomatic breadth, 4.0, 4.0, 4.2; breadth of braincase, 8.8, 9.0, 8.8; depth of braincase, 4.4, 4.2, 4.4; mandible, 10.2, 10.4, 10.0; maxillary tooththrow,\* 8.6, 8.6, 8.6; mandibular tooththrow, 8.0, 8.0, 8.0.

*Specimens examined.*—Four, all from the type locality.

*Remarks.*—This species differs widely from the members of the genus previously known to occur in British India. It appears to be a western representative of the group including *Crocidura attenuata* Milne-Edwards and *C. dracula* Thomas. The peculiar gray color is a character very unusual among shrews.

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\* Teeth slightly worn.